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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1917.

**A LINE O' CHEER  
EACH DAY O' THE YEAR.**

First printing of an original poem, written 1917  
for The Washington Herald.

By John Kendrick Bangs.

**DRAWING NAIR.**

Yes—it is cold, and bleak and chill,  
And out upon my window sill  
Jack Frost hath left a thin veneer  
Of silver film to prove him here:  
But just the same beyond I see  
A softer glow on hill and tree,  
And something in the morning air  
That holds a bit of promise fair  
That spite of winter cold and gray  
The joys of spring are on the way.  
(Copyright, 1917.)

Well, there are not many calories in sugar anyhow.

If the weather man can arrange a day like yesterday for March 5, he will bring a good-sized smile from Col. Robert N. Harper.

Douglas Fairbanks is now being sued for \$250,000. There's bound to be some come-back from those inflated movie salaries.

The building of a municipal hospital in the District seems to hinge upon a debate as to the site. "Get the hospital first, the site is a minor consideration."

T. R. may have shot his bolt, but the twenty-one-gun salute accorded him upon his visit to Governors Island proves that he still stands rather high among citizens.

"Kid McCoy to Lose Eighth Wife," says a New York headline. According to the papers filed in the case it looks as though Mrs. McCoy is the one who is doing the losing.

"My wife won't let me," was the excuse given by a Pennsylvania artilleryman when ordered to board the train for encampment. Which, upon consideration, is a very good excuse.

It is an even bet that the fashion designers are already at work on a creation for female ambulance drivers now that the society women of this city have volunteered in that capacity.

So successful has the daylight saving plan been in France that it has been adopted permanently. This should put at rest all rumors to the effect that the plan is a failure in Europe.

According to the latest report, Ambassador Gerard said "I'll sit here until hell freezes over." This explanation was not needed. We all knew what he had really said when the first report came.

The government employees are getting nearer that increase each day. It now looks as though the compromise rate of 10 per cent up to and including the \$1,000 grade and 5 per cent on the \$1,000 grade to the \$1,500 grade, will be adopted.

The National Guard organization has been ordered home from the border. This means that a number of men of the District of Columbia who gave up positions and in many cases broke up their homes at the call of the country, will have to seek positions. Now is the time for their former employers to come forth and make good their promises given at the time the Guard was ordered away that they would keep their places open until their return.

**HIS SUPREME GIFT.**  
By T. SWANN HARDING.  
He bought her a peck of potatoes.  
A necklace of dried lima beans.  
A cheese and a can of tomatoes—  
He was of unlimited means!  
And gossip had gaping related  
He bought her some meat and some eggs:  
At nothing his love hesitated,  
For gold he had picked in kegs!!!!

But her heart, it was stony, and coldness  
Permeated her figure sublime,  
She scorned all his boons as damnable,  
Her tone was as acid as lime;  
And he wore himself down to a frazzle  
A-trying to plan some surprise—  
Some gift whose effulgence would dazzle  
And light up her cold stony eyes.  
But at last his patience rewarded,  
Tho' he took a most desperate chance,  
For the sake at the place where he boarded  
He looted, to win one sweet glance.  
He was breathless—his heart was a flutter  
As he opened the casket of gold  
Which encased his rare gift—twas some butter!  
Her heart! Never again was it cold.

**The New Spirit.**  
Sydney Brooks has drawn the contrast between the mood of the American people on the day the President broke off from Germany and on another day nearly nineteen years ago, when McKinley was led by an excitable, jingoistic, cocksure public into war with Spain. He thinks Americans have "grown-up" in the turbulent, rushing years that passed between the two events. National character has been developed in the meantime, according to this Englishman's appraisal. When the United States "broke" with Germany, there was no flag-waving, no war-lust, no spread-eagleism of the kind that swept over the land in 1898. The people remained sober, grim, untouched by any surface emotionalism, not looking for war but quite ready to accept any challenge that came from Prussia.

This British interpretation we accept without reserve. The America of 1917 is not the strutting, vain-glorious, more or less spoiled child of fortune of the past generation. It is something entirely different, even though most of us do not realize it; the development of new reservoirs of strength, of will, of reserve power, even in the brief years since the European war broke out has been marked. A "world burden" has been thrust on the United States through the sheer logic of circumstances. The nation is getting ready to carry it, Atlas-like, with characteristic buoyancy; but it is a grave business, no child's play, and means that we have cast our national destiny into the sea of international relationships.

There never was any excuse for the European cynicism that the American people showed no ethical reaction to the issues of the war. There was far more than sentimentality in our sympathy for such oppressed peoples as the Belgians and the Poles; the pro-ally feeling in this country had weight and conviction behind it. Whatever indifference Americans showed to the issues of the war was derived—not, as the cynics would have it, from the smug self-satisfaction of war prosperity and war profits—but from a provincialism which, unfortunately, certain sections of our interior States have not yet freed themselves. It is a geographical offshoot purely, and it is passing. Englishmen should remember that the real British interest in the civil war came only when the Lancashire cotton spinners were cut off from their cotton supply through the Federal blockade of the Southern ports.

The lack of any emotional manifestation in the United States in the days since the German Ambassador was handed his passports is an index to the new national character. Throughout the country the new spirit is revealing itself as an earnest of the greater nation to come.

**Precedents.**  
Residents of Porto Rico are granted a referendum on the question of prohibition by the terms of an amendment added to the Porto Rican bill in the Senate yesterday.

Recently the House passed the bill that makes Alaska "dry." The action was taken because citizens of that Territory had recorded their opinion on the question and had declared in no uncertain terms against intoxicants.

Both of these Territories are represented in Congress by Delegates. They have no vote but they have a voice and that voice is supposed to speak with authority for the people in these Territorial possessions of the United States.

The District of Columbia is entitled to the same consideration as these Territories and advocates of the Sheppard-Barkley bill must readily see the justice of adding a referendum clause to the measure. Without a voice in the halls of Congress and without a vote in the government, residents of the District are forced to depend upon Senators and Representatives legislating for the city of Washington being swayed by justice and the public opinion of the majority for whom they legislate.

Many of the people who have appeared before the House District Committee advocating a referendum on the Sheppard bill are advocates of prohibition. They realize, however, that any law is not capable of enforcement that is not backed by public opinion and a majority sentiment, and they ask that the wish of the people of Washington be expressed by a referendum vote.

# Preparedness of Country Should We Enter World War

"The hour when the United States enters the war will seal Germany's doom," declares J. L. Garvin in the London Observer, who goes on to predict in more specific terms that American ingenuity will find new ways of going to the submarine, and that "the addition of the United States navy to the allies' battle strength would perhaps make possible operations which might finally destroy Germany as a nation." But to the view of our military effectiveness, we have the disquieting assurance of the Chicago Evening Post that "the United States of America is prepared for war neither on the military nor on the physical side." "We have neither a sufficient force to carry our commerce nor an army and navy to protect it," the crisis "finds us unprepared," agrees the Chicago Tribune, "while our navy is in a grossly undeveloped state, our army is not yet determined." "The hour when the United States enters the war will seal Germany's doom," declares J. L. Garvin in the London Observer, who goes on to predict in more specific terms that American ingenuity will find new ways of going to the submarine, and that "the addition of the United States navy to the allies' battle strength would perhaps make possible operations which might finally destroy Germany as a nation." But to the view of our military effectiveness, we have the disquieting assurance of the Chicago Evening Post that "the United States of America is prepared for war neither on the military nor on the physical side." "We have neither a sufficient force to carry our commerce nor an army and navy to protect it," the crisis "finds us unprepared," agrees the Chicago Tribune, "while our navy is in a grossly undeveloped state, our army is not yet determined."

**Stock of Gold.**  
Thus, behind the question of the role we may be destined to play in this war lies the question of our material preparedness. What are the facts? As many editors remind us, the entrance of the United States into the war adds to the world's stock of gold is as large as the combined gold reserve of France, Russia and the United Kingdom, whose pig-iron production is greater than that of all the other countries of the world combined, and whose copper output in 1916 was the rest of the world. The American navy, with 151 fighting ships and a tonnage of 1,000,000, ranks third among the navies of the world, and our merchant marine has a gross tonnage of 8,478,000. And while we have immediately available for our fighting line on land, according to the Chicago Tribune, only "about 50,000 regulars and 100,000 partially trained militia troops," we have more than 2,000,000 National Guardsmen, and 4,738,000 of these, according to the estimates of Mayor Mitchell's committee on national defense, would not be exempt from national service because of sickness, physical disability, industrial necessities, or dependent families. We are armed with England entered the war with an army of about 200,000, and improved an army of 500,000 while she fought. And we have the assurance of a prominent American military officer, that thanks to the development of munition plants in the past few years, "we can provide ordnance and equipment for an American army as rapidly as it can possibly be used in the event of a war with Germany."

**Industries Mobilize.**  
When diplomatic relations were broken, the nation prepared in a mood of sober resolution to meet war if it should come. The governor of New York ordered the National Guard and the Naval Militia into service to guard the city and to water supply of New York City. The railroad brotherhoods and the railroad companies declared a truce in their eight-hour fight. The great steel and shipbuilding concerns offered their plants. Representing billions of dollars of capital to the government. The American Red Cross mobilized throughout the country. The War Department planned for the immediate creation of a reserve of armaments for an army of 1,000,000 men, and the Navy ordered a new class of battleships. The government took measures to guard the production of day and 3,000 motors a day. The Comptroller of the Currency reported to Congress that the United States is "entrenched financially almost as firmly as it is politically." And President Frank A. Vanderlip, of the National City Bank, stated that the banks are prepared to absorb the proposed \$500,000,000 government Treasury bill without a murmur, and more if necessary. Says the Wall Street Journal:

"Lloyd George once spoke of the 'silver bullet' winning the war. Our financial arsenals are filled with those bullets, gold and silver, and they can send them to the allies by the shipload so long as the war lasts. . . .

"America can take upon itself a larger part of the task of feeding the armies and civilians of the allies. Where Germany is hungry, we have grain. Next spring we can increase our production of cereals, potatoes and foodstuffs in general. Governmental regulations may even be directed to that end. We have more than 20,000,000 dairy cows, 40,000,000 head of cattle, 45,000,000 sheep, and 67,000,000 swine. These animals mean food, clothing and leather. . . .

"There are 25,000,000 horses and mules, ready for the battle-front, or the farm, or wherever their labor is needed. . . . We have a vast store of copper, steel, coal and many chemicals. For the production of these military necessities we are the strongest and best-prepared nation of the world. . . .

"The short-sighted Kaiser sees nothing but a mobilization of untrained men behind our little army. He makes his last and greatest mistake. . . .

Five public service. Government orders and government inspection are to be the rule in times of peace in order to secure efficiency in the day of need. . . .

"These and other plans of the National Council of Defense will mean probably the change that has ever occurred in our history. The war has brought about at a single stroke a development of national consciousness the world over which years of agitation and government control could not have achieved. . . .

"The addition of this strength would mean the first real attempt to break up the German fleet, bottled up in the Kiel Canal. The Baltic Sea is more improbable than it has been even up to date. The chances of an actual Dreadnought-to-Dreadnought clash between Germany and the United States are all but negligible. . . .

"A serious battle with German warships off our coast could only occur after the breaking of the first British line of the defense which has held since the time of the German blockade of the Baltic. It is almost incredible that the British sea power were broken, the Germans could hardly be expected to gain their victory without suffering such losses that the performance of defeating the American squadron would be slight. . . .

**New Inventions.**  
Our naval efficiency can be greatly increased, according to the Council of National Defense, by the use of new weapons and methods worked out by the Naval Consulting Board. Some of these devices, according to a member of the board, "are far in advance of anything known to European navies, and in the event of a conflict with Germany, they would be of great value. . . .

"The prime duty of our fleet would be to keep the food ships plying between America and Great Britain. Its first practical service would in all probability be performed in halting the coastwise trade of Germany. . . .

"The Clevelandian predicted that in case of war the shipping of the Great Lakes will be drawn on 'to help provide a huge fleet of dispatch boats, troop transports, supply and hospital ships, and every other kind of vessel. . . .

"In the aeronautical branch of our defenses we are admittedly very weak, and the National Aerial Patrol Commission asks for the stationing of 1,000 hydro-aeroplanes along the coast and the training of 5,000 aviators. . . .

"Comparison of our aeronautical equipment with that of any proportionate great European power fills one with a sense of importance. Great Britain, for instance—what, incidentally, is believed to be somewhat less fit aeronautically than Germany—has between 5,000 and 6,000 aviators. It has more than three times that number of aeroplanes. . . .

"Direct military intervention of the United States in the war in Europe is not practicable, even were America to desire it," according to the military expert of the London Times. But military experts in Washington are quoted as expressing the passage of a universal-servicelaw for the purpose of raising an army, not only to provide a defense against invasion, but to give an offensive weapon against Germany if the war should continue two years more. . . .

"The United States might as well take heed now of Italy's experience. The entente allies can help us even more than we can help them. Getting behind the fourth line of the entente would be a counsel of the soundest wisdom and highest expediency. . . .

# What Leading Newspapers Say on the War Situation Prompt Action Is Imperative.

We are suffering from the effects of a state of war without ourselves declaring war, or having war formally declared against us. With a few daring exceptions, American ships are covering the world, and are unable to obtain from Washington a promise of protection. If our citizens sail for Europe to discharge their lawful errands they do so under foreign flags. The commonest and most innocent function of our ocean commerce, the transportation of mails, is surrendered under compulsion by our own ships and turned over to British liners ready to perish with the aid of 4-inch guns and torpedoes. Our dock yards are congested with freight, and manufacturing and exporting enterprise is beginning to feel a sort of creeping paralysis. . . .

**Facing the Future.**  
(New York World.)  
"God knows where we will land if this country enters the war!" exclaimed James R. Mann, the leader of the Republican minority in the House of Representatives, in the course of a speech yesterday. . . .

But where shall we land if we permit Germany to make war upon us indefinitely without lifting a finger to protect our rights or our self-respect? That is the real question. . . .

"We have come to a point at which our national interests run parallel to the interests of the western countries that are at war with Germany. Everything that we represent in government now bound up with the cause for which Great Britain and France and Belgium are fighting. There could be no peace or security for us with a Germany that dominated Europe. . . .

**Who in the Devil Is?**  
(New York Sun.)  
Maine men all but two, the crew of the Lyman M. Law, sunk by an Austrian submarine, are the twin sons of Providence, Yankee and a Jamaican, the latter may be, a stable lord of the galaxy. Bucksport, Bangor, Belfast, Winterport and Swan Island claim the Downeasters landed on an inhospitable coast with their dunnage, and there was time to drop it alongside. . . .

**Today's Events.**  
Patriotic service, Sons of American Revolution, St. John's Episcopal Church, sixteenth and H streets, 10:30 a. m.  
"Bible" program, Freehold, address by R. C. Alexander, 10:30 a. m.  
Address by Henry K. Bush Brown, All Souls' Episcopal Church, fourteenth and L streets northwest, 7 p. m.  
Mid-winter baccalaureate exercises, George Washington University, New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, 8 p. m.  
Lecture, "The Persecution of Color: Its Relation to Health, Finance and Mind," by Miss Louise Curtis Powell, the Portland, 10:30 p. m.  
Orchestra, Stanley Hall, 8:30 p. m.

**AMUSEMENTS.**  
Reliance-Newman Theatre, 8:15 p. m.  
Keith-Vanderbilt, 8 and 10:15 p. m.  
Columbia, 8:15 and 10:15 p. m.  
Strand-Photoplay, 3 to 11 p. m.  
Garden-Photoplay, 3 to 11 p. m.

# MARRIAGE LICENSES.

**WHITE.**  
Paul A. Oshl, 21, and Fannie M. Lewis, 19, Rev. F. J. Jones.  
William A. Eitner, 22, and Pearl Moritz, 19, Rev. J. H. Jeffries.  
Charles D. Roberts, 35, of Rochester, N. Y., and Cynthia M. Roberts, of Orchard Park, N. Y., Rev. John Van Schick, Jr.  
Earl D. Roland, 22, and Annie L. Clayton, 22, both of Alexandria, Va., Rev. E. H. Swann.  
Elizabeth J. Boyd, 30, of Oxford, Pa., Rev. P. A. Oshl.

# Jottings from Jokers

Bikins—Home, they say, is the dearest place on earth. . . .

# The Herald's Open Forum

## ASKS FOR WAGE INCREASE.

**Higher Grade Clerks Deserve Raise, Says Writer.**  
Editor The Washington Herald: It is a sad fact that the price of almost everything has advanced from 10 to 100 per cent. No one will deny this. . . .

A bill has been favorably acted upon by the House of Representatives increasing the salary of government clerks 10 per cent to \$1,200 and 5 per cent from \$1,200 to \$1,260. This bill, while not fully adequate, at least should become a law. . . .

This certainly should become a law, but why not raise the salaries of employees who receive about \$1,000 per annum? Did some one say the \$1,000 employee does not need an increase as badly as the \$400 employee? . . .

A great majority of the government employees who receive salaries of from \$1,000 per annum to \$1,500 per annum have families or others to support. There is an average of at least three children in a family. A clerk who receives a salary of \$1,000 per annum who has a wife and three children has an average of \$300 per annum for the support of each member of his family to buy food, clothing, medicine, education, etc. . . .

## GERMAN METHODS FLYED.

**"Siva" Says Tentative Barbarity Out-rivals that of Roman Empire.**  
Editor The Washington Herald: As was to have been expected, Germany, as we have heard her mouth and pen, still pretends to be in favor of the permanent peace outlined by President Wilson in his peace speech to the United States Senate. . . .

The allies are fighting not only for victory in the future, but for their very lives now, and that, too, against the most infamous and heartless military despotism that the world has seen since the days of the Roman Empire. . . .

## The Town Crier

The Washington Scaegerbund will hold a masquerade ball at their hall, 210 C street northwest, Monday evening. An informal dance will also be held on George Washington's birthday. . . .

**"One-sided People,"** a lecture by Rev. James Shera Montgomery will be given in Lincoln Road M. E. Church, Lincoln Road and 12 street northeast, Friday night at 8 o'clock. . . .

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Board of Education will be held at Franklin School next Wednesday. The ordinary routine business will be taken up at that time. . . .

**Prof. Charles H. Moore, State Inspector of Colored Schools for North Carolina,** will address the Women's War Service Association this afternoon at the Columbia Academy, 704 T street northwest. His subject will be "Necessity for Uplift Work Among Women." . . .

children, butchered neutrals as ruthlessly as she has belligerents. She has in the past, and still is, deplored whole provinces of helplessness—forcing them into slavery and working them for their oppressors, and have forced the helpless peoples of the world to fight against their own conquerors. . . .

## THE FACTS ABOUT DEWEY.

**Andrew Jordan Green Quotes from Admiral's Autobiography.**  
Editor The Washington Herald: George F. Parker writes. The Washington Herald "some inside information" which says was related to him by Daniel S. Lamont, former Secretary of War, as to how Admiral Dewey was able "to rise despite political and social odds." . . .

## DISCUSSES RACE QUESTION.

**Cyril Conde Fears Discriminations May Spring from War.**  
Editor The Washington Herald: Here in America it has come to pass that worthy, honorable and in every way estimable elements of a race or tribe may have to suffer because of their neglect in the past. . . .

## New Method of Reducing Fat

A news item from abroad informs us that the American method of producing a slim, trim figure is meeting with a decided success. This system, which has made such a wonderful impression over there, must be the Marmola Prescription Tablet method of reducing fat. . . .